Amendments to the Abstract

Please replace the paragraph at page 60, lines 1 through 15 with the following amended paragraph:

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention is an asymmetric data processing system having two or more groups of processors that have attributes that are optimized for their assigned functions. A first processor group, which may be SMP machines, are responsible for interfacing with applications and/or end users to obtain queries, and for planning query execution. A second processor group consists of many streaming record-oriented processors called Job Processing Units (JPUs), typically arranged as an MPP structure. The JPUs carry out the bulk of the data processing required to implement the logic of a query, running autonomously and asynchronously from other processors in the system. The JPUs preferably use a multi-tasking operating system that permits multiple tasks to run at a given instant in time, in either an absolute-priority-based or a weighted-priority-based demand scheduling environment.